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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 DODE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSC-05 COME-00
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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4540
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
ALL NATO CAPITALS

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, PFOR
SUBJECT: ALLIANCE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS

REF: (A) NATO 6136, (B) NATO 5525, (C) STATE 149625,
(D) NATO 5856

SUMMARY: AT THE JUNE 28 SPC MEETING ON THE ALLIANCE EAST-WEST STUDY:

--THE FRENCH PROVIDED THEIR INSTRUCTED VIEWS ON THE OUTLINE FOR THE EAST-WEST STUDY, EXPRESSING STRONG RESERVATIONS CONCERNING THOSE PARTS OF THE OUTLINE WHICH IMPLIED THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMON WESTERN APPROACHES OR COMMON ALLIANCE POSITIONS.

--THE SPC CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT REPORT TO THE COUNCIL PROVIDING A STATUS REPORT ON THE ALLIANCE EAST-WEST STUDY WAS AGREED TO AD REFERENDUM.

--SEVERAL ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS WERE VOLUNTEERED BY THE ALLIES TO THE INITIAL PART OF THE OUTLINE DEALING WITH
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INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY STUDIES.

--SEVERAL ALLIES CHANGED THEIR POSITION ON THE TOPIC OF THE ECONOMIC COLLOQIUM AND SUPPORTED THE EAST-WEST TRADE SUBJECT. SINCE THE SPC WAS UNABLE TO ACHIEVE A CONSENSUS, CHAIRMAN REFERRED FURTHER DISCUSSION TO THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

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1. DISCUSSION OF STUDY OUTLINE REF (B): THE FRENCH REP SAID ON INSTRUCTIONS THAT HIS AUTHORITIES HAD "QUITE STRONG" RESERVATIONS CONCERNING THE DRAFT OUTLINE. FRANCE CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN A STUDY WHICH SEEKS TO DEFINE A COMMON ALLIED APPROACH TO THE EAST, SINCE DEVELOPMENT OF ANY COMMON POSITION WOULD HAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR FRENCH POLICY. STATING THAT ONLY THE GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT OF FRANCE CAN MAKE FRENCH POLICY, HE REQUESTED THE DELE-TION OF THOSE SECTIONS OF THE OUTLINE WHICH IMPLIED TO HIS AUTHORITIES THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMON ALLIANCE APPROACH IN RESPONSE TO TRENDS IN THE EAST. FRENCH REP NOTED, IN PARTICULAR, THAT THERE MUST BE NO SUGGESTIONS IN THE FINAL OUTLINE OF A COMMON ALLIANCE POLICY AS REFLECTED IN LAST PART OF THE PRESENT DRAFT DEALING WITH IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ALLIANCE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT FRANCE VIEWED THE ALLIANCE AS AN ORGANIZATION PROVIDING ONLY FOR SECURITY AND DEFENSE AND THEREFORE PARIS COULD ONLY AGREE TO THESE TOPICS AS LEGITIMATE FOR INCLUSION IN THE ALLIANCE EAST-WEST STUDY.

2. THE BELGIAN REP INDICATED HIS AUTHORITIES SHARED FRENCH CONCERNS SINCE ALL MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE HAVE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT POLICIES. IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ENVISAGE THE ALLIANCE COUNTRIES ARRIVING AT A COMMON POSITION AS IMPLIED IN THE LATTER PART OF THE OUTLINE. THE TURKISH

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REP ALSO INDICATED SOME SYMPATHY WITH THE FRENCH AND BELGIAN POSITIONS.

3. CANADIAN REP SAID THAT HE EMPHATICALLY DISAGREED WITH FRENCH VIEWPOINT SINCE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE TO THE STUDY AS AGREED TO IN THE LONDON COMMUNIQUE CALLED FOR A STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND AN ASSESSMENT OF THEIR "IMPLI-CATIONS FOR THE ALLIANCE." IN EFFORT TO SOFTEN FRENCH OBJECTIONS, US AND OTHER REPS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH THEIR VIEW THAT PURPOSE OF THE STUDY WAS NOT TO FORCE ADOPTION OF A SINGLE POLICY TOWARD THE EAST, BUT RATHER TO PROMOTE SHARED APPRECIATION OF LONG-RANGE DEVELOPMENTS, IMPLI-CATIONS FOR THE ALLIANCE, AND POSSIBLE ALLIED RESPONSES. NEVERTHELESS, THE FRENCH REP INDICATED LITTLE FLEXIBILITY CONCERNING THE FRENCH OBJECTIONS TO THE STUDY OUTLINE.

4. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION, OTHER ALLIES TRIED TO FIND LANGUAGE THAT MIGHT MEET FRENCH SENSITIVITIES WHILE RE-TAINING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PRESENT OUTLINE. AS A RESULT, SOME CHANGES WERE MADE AD REFERENDUM TO THE FIRST PART OF THE OUTLINE FOR INCLUSION IN THE SPC CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT REPORT TO THE COUNCIL, WHICH WE WILL REPORT BY SEPTEL.

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THESE CHANGES, WHILE SATISFYING FRENCH SENSITIVITIES, DO NOT FUNDAMENTALLY CHANGE THE CHARACTER OF THE OUTLINE. SPC REPS NOTED THAT ALLIES WOULD BE FREE TO PROVIDE WHATEVER INPUTS THEY CHOSE TO MAKE AND THAT IN THE LATER DRAFTING STAGES OF THE REPORT, ANY ALLY COULD RAISE OBJECTIONS CONCERNING ITS CONTENT.

5. SEVERAL REPS VOLUNTEERED ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THOSE REPORTED IN REF (D):

--THE UK, CONTRIBUTIONS ON MOST SECTIONS OF THE OUTLINE

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DEALING WITH TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND ALSO ON TWO EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, MOST LIKELY CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND HUNGARY, WHICH HAD NOT YET BEEN SPOKEN FOR;

--CANADA, A RELATIVELY SHORT SPECULATIVE PAPER ON THE SOVIET UNION WHICH WOULD BE PREPARED BY THE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW;

--FRANCE, A STUDY ON POLAND, EXCEPT FOR MILITARY ASPECTS, AND A PAPER ON ECONOMIC EXCHANGES BETWEEN USSR AND WESTERN COUNTRIES;

--THE US REP PRESENTED TOPICS IN REF (C).

6. CONCERNING SUBJECT FOR THE ECONOMIC COLLOQIUM, US REP REFERRED TO LETTER HE HAD EARLIER CIRCULATED TO SPC MEM-

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BERS IN SUPPORT OF THE EAST-WEST TRADE TOPIC. ALTERING POSITIONS REPORTED REFTEL (D), A NUMBER OF ALLIES CAME OUT STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF THE EAST-WEST TRADE TOPIC. AS A RESULT, THE CHAIRMAN SAID THAT IN ABSENCE OF AN SPC CONSENSUS, HE WOULD ASK THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE TO TAKE
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RESPONSIBILITY FOR REACHING CONSENSUS ON A TOPIC.

7. COMMENT: SPC WILL RETURN TO THE EAST-WEST STUDY OUTLINE ON JULY 5. IN THE INTERIM, WE WILL TRY TO SMOKE OUT PRECISE FRENCH VIEWS AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT STEPS. MEANWHILE, WORK IS PROCEEDING BASED ON AGREED PARTS I A AND B OF OUTLINE, WHICH BUYS US SOME TIME TO WORK ON RESOLVING THE ISSUES RAISED BY THE FRENCH.
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